

Postgraduate Year Two (PGY2) Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency

Duration: 12 months
Number of positions: 1
NMS number: 685866

Mission Statement

Upon completion of this residency program, the psychiatric clinical pharmacy specialist will be able to serve confidently and effectively as the psychiatric medication expert in both outpatient and inpatient settings. Residency graduates will function as integral members of interdisciplinary teams caring for individuals with psychiatric and neurologic disorders and will assume responsibility for patient-centered medication therapy. Through a wide variety of psychiatric, information technology, research and managerial experiences, the psychiatric clinical pharmacy specialist will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to be the psychiatric medication specialist at his or her health care organization and a leader in psychiatric pharmacy.

RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES

The residency is a twelve month postgraduate year two program that provides training and experience in Psychiatric Pharmacy Practice and Education. Patient care responsibilities are foremost; residents also receive instruction and experience in management, education and research. Residents are provided with ample opportunities to teach in clinical clerkship and didactic settings.

Required Experiences

Inpatient Psychiatry I (8 weeks)

Located at the Palo Alto Campus, the VA Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS) houses a 3 unit, 60 bed, acute inpatient psychiatric service for both male and female Veterans. The resident on this rotation will serve as the psychopharmacology expert to an interdisciplinary team consisting of psychiatrists, psychiatry residents, psychologists, psychology fellows, nurses, social workers and students. Morning rounds with the treatment team, reviewing medication regimens for proper dosing, dose adjustments, schedule, route of administration, drug-drug interactions, interpreting drug levels, assessing for adverse effects of medications and medication efficacy will be but a few of the resident's daily tasks. The resident will be expected to make drug recommendations regarding psychiatric and medical management. Teaching opportunities during this rotation include leading pharmacy group for the Veterans on each of the three units, serving as the primary preceptor to PGY-1 pharmacy practice residents and pharmacy students on the rotation, leading nursing in-services and providing discharge counseling. The goal for the rotation is to have the resident serve as the primary point of contact for psychiatric pharmacy services for one of the three inpatient units.

Academic Detailing I (8 weeks)

The resident will be expected to provide education on medication side effect monitoring and management, optimization of drug selection for mental health disorders and practical information on how to overcome system barriers to accomplish change. Moreover, the resident will participate in administrative meetings and participate with policy development processes that influence educational programming. Activities will include: developing educational outreach detailing pieces, performing medication utilization reviews to identify areas for educational programming, participating in workgroups for developing drug use guidelines for mental health disorders, reviewing available educational tools and consensus recommendations for incorporation into detailing and in servicing educational resources, conducting Academic Detailing educational outreach visits to Mental Health Providers and reviewing cost-effectiveness information for recommendations in educational encounters.

Pain Management (8 weeks)

The resident will be responsible for designing, implementing, assessing, monitoring and documenting therapeutic pain management plans utilizing the most effective, least toxic and most economical medication treatments in order to achieve positive patient centric outcomes. The resident will function as a mid-level provider in general medicine clinic, pharmacy pain service and pain e-consult service and will adjudicate pain non-formulary drug request consults. The resident will also be responsible for providing education to patients, caregivers and healthcare providers.

Geriatric Psychiatry I (8 weeks)

The resident will gain experience in geriatric psychiatry and geriatric medicine thru exposure to a diverse population of older Veterans with diagnoses of various psychiatric and neurologic disorders. The Community Living Center (CLC) is 100 bed unit consisting of patients admitted for long-term care as well as for rehabilitation, long-term IV antibiotics, radiation/chemotherapy, palliative care/hospice and respite care. The CLC team is interdisciplinary and is composed of psychiatrists, geriatricians, palliative care providers, nurse practitioners and clinical social workers. The resident will perform medication reviews for the patients on their team, recommend medication and monitoring changes by entering a progress note and attending the weekly team meeting, answer consults and drug information questions and provide patient and provider education as needed.

Outpatient Mental Health Clinic (longitudinal)

The resident will work as a mid-level practitioner out of the Fremont Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) to provide psychiatric pharmacy services to the Fremont Mental Health (MH) population. The resident will be expected to see up to 12 patients every Thursday. This will provide the resident with an opportunity to carry a panel of patients they can follow over time. A limited scope of practice will be required to manage patients in clinic. Activities will include: ordering medications and labs, entering referrals and consults, completing encounters, entering progress notes, providing patient education and working collaboratively with an interdisciplinary team which includes psychiatrists, nurses, administrative support, social workers, psychologists and other prescribers in the clinic. This rotation will provide the resident with the opportunity to function as the primary MH provider for Veterans with MH disorders.

Pharmacy Benefits Management (longitudinal)

The resident will serve as a member of the Mental Health Task Force (preceptor: Daina Wells) and the pharamcoeconomics team (preceptor: Susan Campbell). This will provide an opportunity to function as a leader in psychiatric pharmacy and to gain experience in formulary management. Activities will include: completing DUEs and medication reviews, presenting medication-related information to leaders throughout the VISN, reviewing guidelines and current practice to ensure they align, promoting evidence-based treatment and creating policies and restrictions to enforce this, creating drug use criteria, recommending formulary changes, recommending MH medication

alternatives when drug shortages or conversions arise, adjudicating non-formulary (NF) requests, ensuring compliance with regional pharmacy benefits management mental health performance measures and monitors, writing reports and collaborating with other mental health pharmacists throughout the VISN.

Research (longitudinal)

On this longitudinal rotation, the resident will be trained on the VAPAHCS specific research processes, in addition to serving as a mentor for PGY1 residents. The resident will go through the training process required of all investigators within the healthcare system, work with a project preceptor/principle investigator to develop a suitable resident project, gain appropriate committee and IRB approvals (if applicable), execute the project, analyze findings, draw appropriate conclusions based on those findings and present their project in multiple formats (e.g., platform presentation, poster presentation, manuscript of publishable quality).

Clozapine Tracking Team (CTT) (longitudinal)

Composed of an interdisciplinary team of psychiatrists, clinical nurse specialists and clinical pharmacists, the CTT is responsible for implementing the Clozapine Patient Management Protocol (CPMP) thus ensuring the safe and appropriate use of clozapine within the VA and FDA requirements and regulations; identifying and ensuring that clozapine is offered as an option to any VA patient diagnosed with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, who has tried and failed treatment with two antipsychotics; reviewing, approving/denying and completing requests for clozapine treatment; approving VA psychiatrists to prescribe clozapine; completing, collecting and transmitting all necessary forms related to the use of clozapine to the National Clozapine Coordinating Center (NCCC); maintaining and using valid NCCC-assigned patient clozapine authorization numbers; completing bi-annual reviews of all clozapine patients within our health care system; making recommendations for management of Axis I and Axis III diagnoses; monitoring and making recommendations for the management of metabolic syndrome; reviewing, approving/denying requests for change in monitoring frequency; ensuring the proper ordering and dispensing of clozapine from inpatient and outpatient pharmacy and providing education to all staff and patients on all aspects of clozapine treatment. The resident will participate in all of the above mentioned activities as an active member of the CTT.

Example Elective Experiences

Ambulatory Care (4 weeks)

Residents will be assigned to a Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACTs) and be responsible for managing patients with diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia. Residents will evaluate drug regimens for efficacy, adherence and adverse effects, make appropriate adjustments in the medication regimen and order necessary laboratory tests. Teaching opportunities include precepting pharmacy students and providing education to patients, caregivers and staff.

Internal Medicine (4 weeks)

Pharmacy residents provide the patient care team with drug information and patient-specific medication recommendations with the goal of improving patient outcomes. Other activities include participating in work and attending rounds, monitoring patient medication therapy, reporting adverse drug reactions, pharmacokinetic monitoring, order verification and performing patient counseling. Teaching opportunities include giving inservices to health care staff and precepting pharmacy students.

MH Informatics (4 weeks)

The resident will have the opportunity to learn how to write SQL code and learn how to build audit feedback tools, such as the Academic Detailing Mental Health Dashboard. The MH dashboards and reports are designed to provide actionable information to providers surrounding important mental

health treatment issues. The resident will help design and validate tools that will be used nationwide to promote evidence-based treatment of mental health disorders.

Inpatient PTSD (4 weeks):

The resident will gain experience managing patients with a primary diagnosis of PTSD who require a prolonged inpatient stay. The PTSD program is located at the Menlo Park Division and is a 50 inpatient bed treatment facility. The PTSD program team is interdisciplinary and includes psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and a nurse practitioner. Primary responsibilities of the resident for this rotation include rounding with the interdisciplinary team to design, recommend, monitor and evaluate patient-specific therapeutic regimens that incorporate the principles of evidence-based medicine.

Substance Abuse/Addictions (longitudinal)

The resident will work in an outpatient addictions pharmacotherapy clinic along with an interdisciplinary team including medical residents from Stanford University, attending psychiatrists, social workers, a nurse practitioner and psychologists. This experience is offered as a longitudinal experience as the clinic is only offered on Friday mornings. This will give the resident an opportunity to observe patients over time in order to gain an understanding about relapse prevention and the problems that arise while seeking sobriety. Activities will include: recommending medication adjustments, providing patient education in an individual and group setting, resolving pharmacy service-related issues that arise in the clinic and providing the clinical team with medication-related information.

Management/Pharmacoeconomics (4 weeks)

The resident will participate in activities such as: evaluation of recent utilization trends and identification of targets for improvement; cost-saving initiative development and implementation; adjudication of non-formulary drug requests; didactics on pharmacoeconomics, outcomes research, provider profiling, academic detailing, and budget analysis. The resident will be required to attend pertinent meetings, present a pharmacoeconomics-based journal club, and complete an average of 2-3 pharmacoeconomic and outcome projects.

Inpatient Psychiatry II (4 weeks)

The resident will have the opportunity to add an additional 4 weeks to their already required 8 week inpatient psychiatry experience if there is a particular interest in inpatient psychiatry.

Academic Detailing II (4 weeks)

The resident will have the opportunity to add an additional 4 weeks to their already required 8 week academic detailing experience if there is a particular interest education and academic detailing.

Geriatric Psychiatry II (4 weeks)

The resident will have the opportunity to add an additional 4 weeks to their already required 8 week geriatric psychiatry experience if there is particular interest geriatrics.

Benefits

ACLS Certification	Vacation - 13 days / year
Health & Dental Insurance	Sick leave - 13 days / year
Paid educational leave*	All federal holidays off
Free Parking	Lab Coats

*Residents are paid for their time to attend meetings. Funding to support travel and meeting registration is limited

2013-2014 VA Palo Alto Residents

PGY2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Resident

Lacey Miller

PGY1 Residents

Toby Chang (Pacific)	Robert Glenn (UCSF)
Vincent Cheng (Touro)	Abigail Kurtz (Pacific)
Tina Chou (UCSF)	Jia Li (Kelly) Mei (UCSF)
Thien Pham (Touro)	

How to apply:

Our program participates in the ASHP PhORCAS system and National Matching Service (NMS Number: 191213) and follows the rules associated with those processes. This residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.

Our eligibility requirements are:

Prior to match:

1. Applicants must be a US Citizen, or should be eligible for citizenship prior to March 1, of the year the residency is scheduled to start.

After match:

1. Return signed Resident Appointment Letter by the stated deadline.
2. Successfully pass a pre-employment physical exam.
3. Pharmacist licensure in at least one state must be secured within 4 months of starting the residency.

Candidates wishing to apply to our program are required to submit the following via PhORCAS:

1. A "letter of intent" stating why you are pursuing a residency position in our program (max. 1 page).
2. A current curriculum vitae.
3. A VA Form 10-2850D "Application for Health Professions Trainees" **AND** US Government form OF-306 "Declaration for Federal Employment". These forms are available at <http://www.va.gov/oaa/app-forms.asp>.
4. A current official School of Pharmacy transcript.
5. Three letters of recommendation. These should be from individuals capable of commenting on your professional capabilities, including: academic ability, communication skills, behavioral attributes (leadership, initiative, dependability, ability to handle multiple tasks, etc.), clinical problem solving skills, an assessment of potential capability to perform research, and any other attributes which will assist us in assessing your ability to flourish and succeed in our program. All comments and information will be held in strictest confidence. (The program prefers letters from references, but will accept the ASHP Resident Recommendation form).

Applications must be completed in PhORCAS no later than January 3, 2014.

Applications completed after January 3, 2014 will not be reviewed. Incomplete applications are not reviewed. The program will advise applicants with completed applications of their interview status (e.g., invite for interview or no interview) by February 20.

For more information:

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http://www.paloalto.va.gov/services/pharmacy/Pharm_Residency.asp